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EA144WX

U R G E N T

FIRST LEAD HOOVER--PRECEDE NEW YORK (A111)

BY JAMES C. MUNN

ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON, NOV. 18 (AP)-FBI DIRECTOR J. EDGAR HOOVER BOILED UP TODAY WITH CRITICISM OF THE WARREN COMMISSION AND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., NOBEL PRIZE WINNING NEGRO LEADER.

IN AN EXTRAORDINARY THREE-HOUR CHAT WITH A GROUP OF WASHINGTON WOMEN REPORTERS, HOOVER ALSO SPOKE UP ON CIVIL RIGHTS, PROTECTION OF THE PRESIDENT, POLICE CORRUPTION AND JUVENILE DELINQUENCY.

ACCUSING THE WARREN COMMISSION OF AN UNFAIR REPORT ON HIS AGENCY, HE SAID THE COMMISSION'S REPORT ON PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION WAS "UNFAIR AND UNJUST" IN ITS CRITICISM OF THE FBI.

REFERRING TO THE PORTION OF THE REPORT IN WHICH THE FBI IS REPORTED AS FAILING TO NOTIFY THE SECRET SERVICE THAT LEE HARVEY OSWALD WAS IN DALLAS, HOOVER SAID ANGRILY: "IT IS A CLASSIC EXAMPLE OF MONDAY MORNING QUARTERBACKING."

IN THE WIDE-RANGING INTERVIEW, ATTENDED BY REPORTERS FROM THE NEW YORK DAILY NEWS, THE WASHINGTON POST AND OTHER NEWSPAPERS, HOOVER CALLED DR. KING "THE MOST NOTORIOUS LIAR IN THE COUNTRY" FOR CLAIMING THAT FBI AGENTS IN ALBANY, GA., WOULD TAKE NO ACTION ON CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLAINTS BECAUSE THEY (THE AGENTS) WERE SOUTHERNERS.

AN ALIDE TO DR. KING SAID HE WAS NOT IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT, THAT THE INTEGRATION LEADER WAS IN THE BAHAMAS ON VACATION AND WOULD MAKE NO STATEMENT UNTIL TOMORROW AT THE EARLIEST.

(MORE)

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AMONG WARREN COMMISSION MEMBERS SEN. RICHARD B. RUSSELL, D-GA., WAS REPORTED AT HIS WINDER, GA., HOME TO HAVE RETIRED FOR THE NIGHT. SEN. JOHN SHERMAN COOPER, R-KY., WAS REPORTED BY HIS HOUSEKEEPER TO BE IN EUROPE. REP. HALE BOGGS, D-LA., IS ALSO IN EUROPE.

A CALL TO CHIEF JUSTICE EARL WARREN, THE COMMISSION CHAIRMAN, AT HIS RESIDENCE IN A WASHINGTON HOTEL, BROUGHT NO ANSWER.

ALSO ON 7TH GRAF (FIRST GRAF A145WX)

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EA173WX

INSERT

WASHINGTON--FIRST LEAD HOOVER (A145WX ETC), INSERT AFTER 8TH GRAF,  
(PVSLY INSERTED AS A170WX), "A CALL X X X NO ANSWER."

JOHN J. MCCLOY WAS ALSO REPORTED OUT OF THE COUNTRY.

EFFORTS TO REACH REP. GERALD FORD, R-MICH., AND ALLEN W. DULLES,  
FORMER DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, WERE UNSUCCESSFUL.

ALSO ON AS PVSLY

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EA145WX

U R G E N T

WASHINGTON--FIRST ADD FIRST LEAD HOOVER (A144WX) X X X THE EARLIEST.  
ALSO ON CIVIL RIGHTS, HOOVER DESCRIBED AS "A SCANDALOUS THING TO  
DO" THE SUSPENSION BY A MCCOMB, MISS., JUDGE OF THE SENTENCES OF  
NINE MEN CONVICTED OF BOMBING AND BURNING A CHURCH. HE SAID THE MEN  
WERE NOT YOUNG, AS CLAIMED, BUT RANGED IN AGE FROM 30 TO 44.

"AROUND PHILADELPHIA, MISS.," HOOVER CONTINUED, "LAW ENFORCEMENT IS  
PRACTICALLY NIL AND MANY TIMES SHERIFFS AND DEPUTIES PARTICIPATE IN  
CRIME."

HE SAID GREAT PROGRESS IS BEING MADE IN SOLVING THE MURDERS OF THREE  
CIVIL RIGHTS WORKERS WHO WERE BURIED AT A DAM SITE NEAR PHILADELPHIA.

HOOVER ALSO ASSERTED THERE IS POLICE PARTICIPATION IN CRIME IN SEVER-  
AL MIDWESTERN CITIES. HE SAID THIS IS ONE REASON HE OPPOSES A NATIONAL  
POLICE FORCE.

"IF THEY (LOCAL POLICE) COULD WRITE TO A CENTRAL CLEARING HOUSE FOR  
INFORMATION YOU CAN IMAGINE WHAT HARM THEY WOULD DO," HOOVER SAID.

THE FBI DIRECTOR ALSO CRITICIZED "BLEEDING HEART JUDGES" FOR SHIELD-  
ING JUVENILES WHO HAVE COMMITTED MAJOR CRIMES.

HE SAID THE FBI WOULD HAVE KNOWN THAT OSWALD, KENNEDY'S ASSASSIN,  
HAD A JUVENILE RECORD IF THE NEW YORK COURTS HAD NOT KEPT IT SECRET.

HOOVER SAID HE INCLUDED JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT IN THE "BLEED-  
ING HEARTS" CLASS FOR RULING THAT A PRISONER MUST BE ARRAIGNED WITHIN  
24 HOURS AFTER ARREST AND CANNOT BE HELD FOR DAYS ON SUSPICION OF CRIME.

HOOVER ALSO BESTOWED THE "BLEEDING HEART" TAG ON JUDGES WHO HE SAID  
ARE TO BLAME FOR THE "DISGRACE" OR URBAN CRIME.

"YOU CAN'T SAFELY WALK THE STREETS OF WASHINGTON, D.C., EVEN IN  
THE DAYLIGHT," HOOVER SAID.

AND, IN NEW YORK CITY'S CENTRAL PARK, HOOVER SAID "NO ONE DARES  
WALK THERE EVEN IN THE DAYTIME AND THERE ARE HOLDUPS ON FIFTH AVENUE AT  
9:30 OR 10 AT NIGHT."

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HOOVER EMPHASIZED AGAIN AND AGAIN THAT IT IS NOT HIS AGENCY'S BUSINESS TO GUARD ANYONE.

HE SAID THIS INCLUDES THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THOSE WHO GO DOWN TO REFORM THE SOUTH."

HOOVER SAID THERE IS "NOT A SCINTILLA" OF JEALOUSY BETWEEN THE FBI AND THE SECRET SERVICE, WHICH IS CHARGED BY LAW WITH PROTECTING THE PRESIDENT.

"THE SECRET SERVICE," HOOVER ADDED, "IS HOPELESSLY ILL-EQUIPPED AND UNDERMANNED TO DO THE JOB IT IS EXPECTED TO DO, BUT I HAVE ENOUGH HEADACHES OF MY OWN."

IN NEW YORK CITY ALONE, HE SAID, 7,000 PERSONS WOULD HAVE TO BE TAKEN OUT OF CIRCULATION EVERY TIME THE PRESIDENT MADE A PUBLIC APPEARANCE THERE IF IT WERE DEEMED NECESSARY TO REMOVE "EVERY INDIVIDUAL WHO MIGHT THREATEN THE SAFETY OF THE PRESIDENT."

(MORE)

EG934PES



EA147WX

U R G E N T

WASHINGTON--SECOND ADD FIRST LEAD HOOVER (A145WX) X X X THE PRESIDENT."

HOOVER MADE THESE OTHER OBSERVATIONS:

LIE DETECTORS: "I HAVE ALWAYS TAKEN THE POSITION THAT THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A LIE DETECTOR. IT HAS TO BE OPERATED BY A HUMAN BEING. WHENEVER A HUMAN BEING REACHES CONCLUSIONS HE IS APT TO MAKE AN ERROR."

--GUN CARRYING: "SALES OF WEAPONS SHOULD BE RESTRICTED. THERE ARE LICENSES FOR AUTOMOBILES AND DOGS, WHY NOT GUNS?"

--JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY: "WE HAVE NEVER INVESTIGATED THE SOCIETY... I HAVE NO RESPECT FOR THE HEAD OF THE SOCIETY, ROBERT WELCH."

--MINUTEMEN: "WE ARE LOOKING INTO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE MINUTEMEN. THERE IS NOTHING MORE LIKE THE KU KLUX KLAN AND WE HAVE DONE A JOB ON (THE KU KLUX KLAN) THEM."

HOOVER SAID "ALL THE LYNCHINGS AND BOMBINGS OF HOMES IN THE SOUTH" WERE THE WORK OF KLAN MEMBERS. HE SAID HIS AGENCY KNOWS "PRETTY WELL WHO THEY ARE."

THE FBI DIRECTOR SAID HIS AGENCY IS WATCHING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE BLACK MUSLIMS. AND OF GEORGE LINCOLN ROCKWELL, HEAD OF THE AMERICAN NAZI PARTY, HOOVER SAID:

"HE IS BIGOTED AND BIASED AND I WOULDN'T PAY MUCH ATTENTION TO ANYTHING HE SAID."

(NO PICKUP)

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EA167WX (NU FOLO)

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WASHINGTON--THIRD ADD FIRST LEAD HOOVER (A147) X X X HE SAID.

AN FBI SPOKESMAN SAID THE INTERVIEW WAS HELD WITH THE WOMEN REPORTERS AT THEIR REQUEST. HE SAID THEY HAD HAD SIMILAR CHATS WITH OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND INDICATED THE SESSION WITH HOOVER WOULD BE ALONG THOSE LINES. HOOVER THEN SET THIS MORNING FOR THE INTERVIEW.

HOOVER, 69, AND HEAD OF THE FBI SINCE 1924, HAS BEEN TOLD BY PRESIDENT JOHNSON HIS TENURE WILL BE EXTENDED "FOR AS LONG AS I AM IN THE WHITE HOUSE."

THIS IS THE SECOND TIME HOOVER'S COMMENTS ON THE WARREN COMMISSION HAVE STIRRED CONTROVERSY.

SHORTLY AFTER THE COMMISSION'S REPORT WAS MADE PUBLIC SEPT. 27, THE WASHINGTON EVENING STAR PUBLISHED A COPYRIGHTED PARTIAL TRANSCRIPT OF THE FBI DIRECTOR'S TESTIMONY, SOME OF WHICH WAS CRITICAL OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

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